



CULTURA DE LAS MONTAÑAS

NEWSLETTER

of the

East Mountain Historical Society

P.O. Box 106, Tijeras, NM 87059

Third Quarter/September 2008

EMHS Helps Tijeras Celebrate 35th Anniversary

Photo Exhibit, Recording of History Part of Sept. 20 Event

By Denise Tessier

Join us as the East Mountain Historical Society shows off its photographic exhibit of East Mountain villages as depicted over the last century during the Village of Tijeras' 35th anniversary celebration to be held Saturday, Sept. 20.

The celebration is an important event in the history of EMHS, as it marks a return for us in terms of use of the historic Santa Niño church.

After being invited by the village to take part in the celebration, President Anabel Sanchez and some board members met with village officials over the last several months to prepare. Board members met in the church earlier this month to dust off and repair the exhibit panels for Saturday's event, as the panels suffered a bit of wear and tear after traveling in recent years to showings across several public venues throughout the East Mountains and Albuquerque.

The photo exhibit depicts life in the East Mountains, from its earliest history through the time of land grants through the origins of Route 66 to the era of health seekers, along with historical photos of fiestas and churches of the East Mountain villages.

Our very first exhibition of the traveling panels was also in the little church, a historic structure whose restoration was started by EMHS when it secured a federal grant of \$32,000 for its repair and stabilization 11 years ago.

In addition to our presence in the church next Saturday, EMHS is helping the village celebrate its 35th anniversary in other ways. Anabel



East Mountain Historical Society members – inside the historic Santa Niño Church in Tijeras – work to repair the wear and tear EMHS panels suffered while serving as a traveling display. The now-repaired panels will be exhibited inside the church as part of the Village of Tijeras' 35th anniversary celebration in and around the church on Saturday, Sept. 20. Pictured from left are Anne Dacey-Lucas, Dot Rich, Joyce Mendel and Becky Schnelker. (Photo by Denise Tessier)

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**Web Site Is Now Live—
see page 3**

News and Notes ...

... of the East Mountain Historical Society

A huge thank you to member Melissa Howard for laying out this issue of the EMHS Newsletter!

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A hearty welcome to new member Lois V. Fols, who lives in Edgewood. Welcome to EMHS!

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Already a member? Don't forget to mail in your dues renewal by Jan. 1, 2009.

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Do you know of a neighbor or someone you think is worthy of being interviewed for an oral history related to the East Mountains? Please contact Anabel Sanchez at 275-3388 or by email at president@eastmountainhistory.org. Please contact her also if you are interested in conducting oral histories for EMHS.

Tijeras Aniversary

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In addition, EMHS will be collecting history at the event. Area residents are invited to bring old documents, such as Homestead or Spanish deeds; family photos and copies of family oral histories; and old photos of area buildings and landscapes. EMHS will scan and copy the photos and documents for inclusion in our archives of the history of the area.

In conjunction with the village's dedication of its Vietnam Memorial the same day, the society is also inviting those veterans in attendance to share their stories and oral histories, which will be recorded.

The exhibit and collection of history is being conducted as part of Tijeras's dedication of the Luis Garcia Park and Veterans Memorial, which are located next to and behind the little church, just west of the East Mountain Library in Tijeras.

Village festivities begin with a parade that will commence at the Village Hall at 9 a.m., followed by dedication speakers at 10:30 a.m. and military flyovers and salutes at noon. The EMHS exhibit will be on display for the public at no charge from 12:30 to 3 p.m. during the village's celebration in the park, which will include music and food vendors.

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Do you have an East Mountain history story to share? Please send your submissions to Denise Tessier by email at newsletter@eastmountainhistory.org. I'm particularly interested in hearing a report from any of you who attended Chuck Van Gelder's archeology tour of Hagen and Tejon, which took place in May.

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New Mexico Genealogist magazine is looking for unpublished articles about Albuquerque's founding families for inclusion in its March 2009 issue. Papers are due by Jan. 1. For more information, visit the New Mexico Genealogical Society web site at www.nmgs.org.

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The village of Tijeras has linked the East Mountain Historical Society to its Web site. Check out the village's history page at www.villageoftijerasnm.com and click on the "history" bar.

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Does your employer match charitable donations? Please remember EMHS in your giving.



Annual Meeting and Elections Set for October 26

The EMHS Nominating committee has come up with a slate of nominees for the Executive Board and EMHS Board of Directors for 2009. The membership will vote on these nominations during the Annual Meeting Oct. 26 at 2 p.m.

Location of the meeting is still being firmed up and will be sent to members by email before the event. Those without email will be called. Please call or email a board member if you have not received notice within a week of the event.

Nominations for these offices will also be taken from the floor at the annual meeting. Here is the slate of officers and directors for 2009:

- President – Andre Larroque
- Vice President – Anabel Sanchez
- Treasurer – Pat Rich
- Secretary – Anne Dacey-Lucas
- Board Members:
- Margaret Garcia
- Manuel Garcia y Griego
- Maria Herrera Dresser
- Dot Rich
- Kathleen Rich
- Becky Schnelker
- Denise Tessier
- Chuck Van Gelder
- Louise Waldron

All but new member Kathleen Rich would be continuing as members of the board if elected.

Andre Larroque is currently Preservation Chairman for EMHS and was instrumental in assisting in the extension of the Gutierrez Canyon Open Space effort earlier this year. Anabel Sanchez is currently president of EMHS, and Pat Rich and Anne Dacey-Lucas are the current treasurer and secretary, respectively. Denise Tessier is stepping off the executive board but will continue doing the newsletter, publicity and Web site as Communications Chairman.

Web Site Is Now Live

On June 25, EMHS (finally) entered the digital age with the launch of its Web site, eastmountainhistory.org.

The site includes a [home page](#) describing the mission, accomplishments and goals of the organization, our [newsletters](#) back through 2006, a [“Join Us”](#) membership page, a [“Contact Us”](#) page and a page with an extensive [list of links](#) to other historical society Web pages, museums and sources of information related to genealogy and history. The home page also has an “Announcements” section that will be updated periodically to alert members of special events. We will continue to use email and phone calls as ways to reach members as well.

With funding approval from the board, Vice President Denise Tessier secured the site domain name and server and wrote up all the information on the site, with fact-checking assistance from the board. Further funding was used to hire East Mountain Web designer Juli Farresta to work with Denise in designing and putting up the site.



EARLY HISTORY OF THE EAST MOUNTAIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

By Joyce Mendel

The East Mountain Historical Society had its origins in 1991, when several of us volunteered to research and write a report concerning East Mountain history for Bernalillo County's 1992 East Mountain Area Plan. I chaired the committee and wrote the final report, to which Jim Medford, Phyllis Brock-Drumheller and Naomi Stape contributed. Jim wrote the section concerning East Mountain lime kilns. The county incorporated the report into the plan, with few changes

In its report, the history committee recommended that a number of actions be taken by the county. These included undertaking a survey to identify historic East Mountain structures and other actions to protect historic buildings and archaeological sites. The final report stated that the county would write an archaeological/historic preservation ordinance for the Unified Development Code. To assist with those objectives, the committee continued meeting.

In the summer of 1992, we enlisted volunteers and joined members of the Albuquerque Archaeological Society to repair the fence surrounding the Paa-ko Pueblo ruins. The objective was to keep cattle from coming in through the openings, trampling the adobe ruins and increasing erosion. Through this effort, the history committee expanded to include persons whose primary interest was archaeology.

We Get More Formal

By early fall, however, committee interest was faltering and member Chuck Van Gelder suggested a more formal organization, with programs and membership dues. I re-organized the group as a history committee of the East Mountain Area Association, with coverage by their 501 (c) 3 tax status. The EMAA treasurer agreed to handle our receipts and disbursements. Louise Waldron agreed to help start up the new organization with me and to serve as co-chairperson.

Louise and I asked the state to survey historic structures in the East Mountain Area and we obtained support from County Commissioner Jacque Schaeffer. In December, we were informed that the N.M. Historic Preservation Division had allocated \$5,000 for a preliminary planning survey of the area. Chris Wilson undertook the survey a year later, in January 1994, which resulted in recommendations and a booklet titled Reconnaissance Survey of the Manzano and Sandia Mountain Villages.

We began soliciting members for the new organization in November 1992. Bill Brennan assisted with the first newsletters, with articles submitted by the membership. The first newsletter was published in the winter of 1993, and Dr. Ward Alan Minge presented the first program in March 1993. The first dues-paying and honorary members that winter,

myself and Louise, were: Bob and Pat Blankert, Karen Castioni, Maria Herrera Dresser, John Hayden, Lorenzo and Joyce Herrera, Tom Herrera, Kathleen Hanlon, Charles and Lariene Trete, Chuck Van Gelder, Jim Wernicke and Bill Brennan. The group included many who had attended meetings since summer.

By early spring, the following persons also had joined: Bob Audette, Phyllis Brock-Drumheller, Cecilia Cardwell, Tom Conley, Mary Davis, Diana and Richard Herrera, Mary Larsen, Jerry Loomis, Albert and Jennifer Noyer, Anabel Sanchez and Ailene Wood.

That spring the East Mountain history "committee" adopted "East Mountain Historical Society" as its name, although it remained a subcommittee of the EMAA. Albert Noyer served as ad hoc secretary. Tom Conley drafted by-laws, with suggestions from committee members. The group had been meeting as a committee of the whole, but it was decided that a smaller, decision-making body was needed. It would not be called a board of directors, since we were a committee under the EMAA, and so was termed a "steering sub-committee."

Bylaws and Officers

At the October meeting, the bylaws were adopted and officers and steering sub-committee members were elected to serve until the April annual meeting. They were: Joyce Mendel and Louise Waldron, co-chairpersons; recorder, Anabel Sanchez; finance officer, Maria Dresser.

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More on EMHS History

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Tom Conley. Bob Audette, Pat and Dot Rich and Pat and Bob Blankert were appointed to the sub-committee later in the year. A name for the quarterly newsletter, *Cultura de las Montañas*, was chosen from among recommendations.

By the end of 1993, the EMHS had presented four public programs, published four newsletters, sponsored a number of tours and workshops, begun collecting old photographs and extending its oral history collection, and researched archival information concerning East Mountain villages and land grants.

In 1994, Kathy Hanlon organized a traditional East Mountain music and dance event, held in September. The event raised several hundred dollars for the historical society and increased public awareness of our activities. That same year I requested a planning grant from the New Mexico Endowment for the Humanities to copy materials for a future historical and cultural exhibit and to plan for the exhibit. The NMEH funded the project for \$1,000 in early 1995.

Supported by the grant, several of us visited libraries and archives to copy historical documents in 1995. Kathy arranged four photograph-copying events, personally borrowing a number of the private old photos that were copied. I was project director for the grant, Colleen Denny was fiscal agent, and David Straub copied the photographs.

I wrote a second grant request for creation of a photographic exhibit about history and culture of the East Mountains, which the NMEH funded for \$4,000 in March 1996. The 13-panel exhibit opened in the Tijeras Historic Church in April 1997. I directed the project, Karen Boettcher was fiscal agent, Andre Larroque and Victor Wells planned the panel layout, and Andre designed frames for the panels, which Pat Rich constructed. Chris Wilson donated his time as an expert consultant, and Marie Dresser sewed protective covers for the panels. Many other volunteers assisted with putting the exhibit together and preparing the Tijeras Historic Church for its opening.

Around this time, Kathy Hanlon began her successful effort to secure federal funds, through the Intermodal Surface Transportation Act (ISTEA), to assist Tijeras with restoration of its Historic Church.

Kathleen Hanlon took over as chairperson of the organization in the spring of 1996, with Anabel Sanchez as vice chairperson. They were followed in 1999 by Louise Waldron and Maria Dresser as co-chairpersons.

(Editor's note: Albert Noyer designed the society's logo that you see on the masthead of the newsletter, and Marie Herrera Dresser came up with the tagline, "Cultura de las Montañas.")

Join Us

Membership is by calendar year. Please send your name, address, telephone number, and email address to the East Mountain Historical Society, P.O. Box 106, Tijeras, NM 87059. For more information, visit eastmountainhistory.org and click on the "Join Us" bar.

Annual dues categories are: **Student**, \$10; **Individual**, \$15; **Family**, \$20; **Sponsor**, \$25; **Corporation**, \$50. Donations are welcome. Honorary members who have lived in the East Mountains more than 50 years do not pay dues.

EMHS is a 501(c) 3 non-profit and dues are tax deductible as allowable by law. Please make checks payable to: **East Mountain Historical Society**.



EMHS Board Approves Bylaws Changes

By Denise Tessier, Vice President

A number of changes to the EMHS bylaws were made by the EMHS board at its September meeting. Significantly, one of the revisions passed by the board is that any future changes are contingent upon approval by the general membership and not just the governing board. The changes were approved based on revisions suggested by the Bylaws Committee, Joyce Mendel and Becky Schnelker, with some additions by the board.

What follows are only those sections changed by the board, with a summary of what was changed in each.

SECTION I MISSION STATEMENT

THE EAST MOUNTAIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY (EMHS). The mission is to identify, preserve and present to the public the history and culture of the East Mountain Area. The EMHS will assist in protecting historical buildings and landscapes, artifacts, records, or any item considered to be of historical significance. The EMHS will also identify, collect and archive historical material of significance to the area.

(Summary: The second and third sentences were revised for clarity in wording, with no discernible change in content.)

SECTION II MEMBERSHIP MEMBERSHIP DUES

Dues will be determined by the Board and subject to change on a yearly basis. The annual dues are payable as of January 1 of each year. A reminder will be sent with the Winter Newsletter. The first notice will be placed in the Fall Newsletter. Any member not paying dues 30 days after receiving the winter reminder will receive a notice by mail or phone and be removed from the membership roll until reinstated. Reinstatement may be accomplished by payment of the current year's dues. Honorary members will not pay any fee.

(Summary of changes: Disenrollment will occur 30 days after the winter reminder, rather than 10 days. The line about reinstatement is new.)

SECTION IV THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMPOSITION OF BOARD

The Board shall be composed of at least seven (7) members but can be expanded to any number necessary to accomplish a specific task. The Board shall include a President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary, also known as the Executive Board, and at least three (3) members.

(Summary: Deleted is a requirement that the board have an uneven

number of members. Also deleted is reference to a Chairperson, which is now called the President.)

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Elected directors shall assume duties on January 1 following the month of their election. They shall serve through December 31 of that year and may be re-elected. Appointed directors shall serve through December 31 of the year in which they were appointed.

(Summary: This is all new language so that officers begin their terms in January instead of immediately after the annual meeting in October, which tracks better with our obligations as an incorporated non-profit.)

There shall be no limits to consecutive terms of office for officers.

(Summary: This replaces the previous bylaw that defined term of office as one year.)

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

The Nominations Committee will consist of members in good standing. The Nominations Committee shall make recommendations from the membership for nomination to the Board. Recommendations can be made to the Nominations Committee, President or Vice President at least two months before the annual meeting, or from the floor at the annual meeting. Announcement of the slate of Officers will be made in the Summer or Fall Newsletter.

The President, with the concurrence of the Board, may appoint additional directors throughout the year. Vacancies of any Board member may be filled by a majority vote of the remaining Directors, except for a vacancy in the

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Remodeled San Antonito Schoolhouse Open to Public

Those of you who've been dying to see how High Mountain Homes remodeled the **historic San Antonito schoolhouse** will have plenty of opportunity to do just that next month. Over three weekends in October, the historic stone structure will be open as part of the Homes of Enchantment Parade – from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. each of these days: Oct. 11 and 12, 17-19, and 24-26. Tours of the homes and building are free.

Owner David Engelman told EMHS Newsletter the remodel was a tough job but that he's happy with the resulting structure that now serves as the office of High Mountain Homes. "We love it; it's beautiful inside," he said, adding he's happy to show it off to members. He credits his wife Sharon with convincing him to preserve the historic structure, which was saved, too, through the efforts of "a great crew."

The former school is located on the east side of North N.M. 14, just north of Frost road, across from the school bus yard. For maps and information on the Enchantment tour, visit <http://www.home-sofenchantmentparade.com>. For more on the school, check out the story we ran in 2007 by clicking on "2007 Issue 2" on the [Newsletters page](#) of the EMHS Web site.



A view from the trailhead at John A. Milne Gutierrez Canyon Open Space in Cedar Crest, acquired by the City of Albuquerque through the work of a coalition that included the East Mountain Historical Society.

More on Bylaws

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office of President, in which case the Vice President shall perform all the duties of the President's office until the next election.

(Summary: Previously, replacements for vacancies in any office were chosen by the board.)

SECTION V OFFICERS OF THE BOARD VICE PRESIDENT

In the event the President is absent or unable to act, the Vice President shall perform the duties of the President. The Vice President shall perform such other duties as assigned by the President or Board.

(Summary: This was revised to eliminate reference to the Chairperson and also to fix a missing word.)

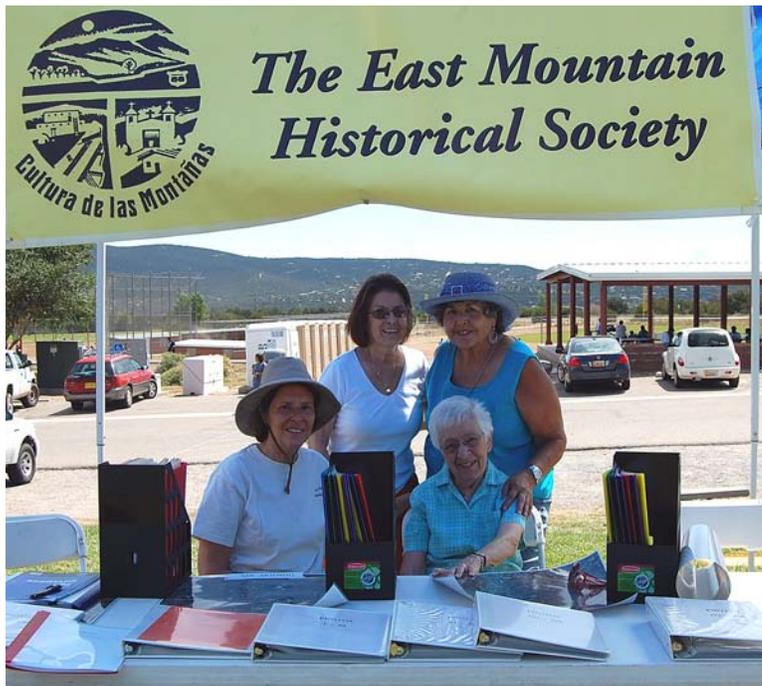
SECTION VII AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

The Board of Directors shall inform the general membership of proposed changes to the bylaws at least one week prior to the Annual Meeting or a special meeting called for that purpose. Any proposed amendment to the Bylaws shall be submitted in writing to the Board of Directors no less than two weeks prior to the meeting at which the amendment is to be acted upon.

These bylaws shall not be amended except by a two-thirds vote of the members present at the Annual Meeting or at a special meeting called for that purpose by the Board of Directors.

(Summary: All of this section is new and replaces the single line in the previous bylaws that gave solely to the board all power for altering, amending or repealing bylaws.





Celebrating History

Members of the East Mountain Historical Society shared oral histories and historic photographs with the public by setting up and working a booth at the East Mountain Celebration held Sept. 7 at Vista Grande Community Center. Pictured clockwise from left are Denise Tessier, Anabel Sanchez, Marie Herrera Dresser and Dot Rich. (Photo by Pat Rich)

The newsletter of the East Mountain Historical Society, published quarterly, aims to inform members and prospective members of EMHS events and endeavors, including committee work, and to serve as a record of society activities. It is also a forum for stories about the area. Please send your ideas for future newsletter items to Denise Tessier at P.O. Box 379, Cedar Crest, NM, 87008, or contact her by email at scs@nmia.com.

East Mountain Historical Society

P.O. Box 106

Tijeras, NM 87059

